

# DARING JAIL DELIVERY IN DEMING IS FOLLOWED BY DESPERATE FIGHT IN WHICH SHERIFF IS KILLED

## FIVE OUTLAWS MAKE ESCAPE; ONE IS DEAD, ONE CAPTURED AND OTHERS GET TO HILLS

Most Thrilling Adventure of Recent Years Is Enacted During Calm of Sabbath Morning; Prisoners Use Ruse to Overpower Jailer and Then Call Up Garage and Order Automobile Equipped for Long Journey; Unsuspecting Auto Dealer Complies With Request and Is Himself Thrown in Jail; Desperadoes Get Good Start but Are Overtaken Near Rincon Where Bloody Battle Is Fought; Posses in Hot Pursuit of Fugitives.

Rincon, N. M., Feb. 20.—(Special Dispatch to Morning Journal.)—W. Stephens, sheriff of Luna county, and Joe Cranson, who was serving a jail sentence for various crimes, were slain by five desperadoes in a daring jail delivery in Deming early this morning in which five prisoners escaped and made a dash for liberty in an automobile.

Manuel Tabor, of Deming, one of the posse pursuing the fugitives, gives the following account of the battle which resulted in the death of Stephens and Cranson and the wounding of Sheriff Kelly and Deputy Sheriff John Kelly.

"We ran onto the bandits, just over a small but steep hill about a mile northwest of Rincon. We saw them as they were driving away in a car. They were doubtful of getting the car over the hill.

"I went up to the top of the hill and saw the bandits beside their car, which was stalled, eating a lunch. They opened fire on me. I stopped long enough to call the rest of the posse and then returned the fire. Just how many shots were exchanged before my three companions came up, I do not know. Back Sheriff arrived first, Sheriff D. H. Stephens next and Deputy Sheriff John Kelly third.

Surprised by Bandits.  
They came running and like me were surprised by the nearness of the bandits. I don't believe they were more than ten paces from where we stood.

"Throw up your hands, you!" yelled Sheriff Stephens. "I fired one shot and fell. Sheriff Stephens never fired a shot, falling dead with his hand half raised in the air. Deputy Sheriff Kelly arrived and shot the bandit who had been forced to drive the car for the bandits. The fugitives were already in full flight. Sheriff Stephens came up in such a way that he was but a few feet from the man that shot him. The bandit stepped over and secured Stephens' gun and used it until he fled. I saw but one of the men when I stepped from behind the hilltop. He was just taking a shot. I fired twice at him and he fell.

"We found afterward that he had been shot in the leg. One of the bandits made off in the general direction of El Paso. The other two fled toward Grana, a station northeast of Rincon. I followed the two with Wayne Estes. We took a car to bring back the body of Sheriff Stephens and Deputy Sheriff Kelly. We were started on our return to find him sitting up with the blood streaming over his face. He was not badly injured, having only a slight scalp wound.

Marshal Tabor went Deming for assistance upon reaching Rincon after the battle. Help began to arrive about two hours after the fight and has been coming in a steady stream ever since.

Fifty Deming citizens, including a detachment of Company I, N. M. N. G., under the command of Lieut. Clyde Earl Ely, are searching. Large patrols are out over the country trailing the fleeing bandits.

All trains are being met by the state troops at Rincon and thoroughly searched. Peace officers in every direction have been notified.

Sheriff Felipe Lucero of Dona Ana county is due to arrive from Las Cruces at 11:10 p. m. with a posse.

Another possessor as well as a man named Grover, who was with the alleged outlaws, were killed. That was about four years ago.

Irvin Frazier, of Gates, was with Grover's party at "The Adobes," but escaped. He was captured afterward and hanged at Rincon nearly three years ago. Frazier protested that he was not guilty of killing either of the possessor.

A brother of Sheriff Stephens lives at Venier, Santa Fe county. Sheriff Stephens was here less than two weeks ago. He was well known in this city.

Cronos Sends Note to Chief of Police.  
New York, Feb. 20.—A pencilled note, purporting to have been written last night and dropped without envelope or stamp into a mail box at the Grand Central station here, by Jean Cronos, the fugitive after accusation of having attempted to poison guests at a dinner in honor of Archbishop Mundelein in Chicago, was received by the police today. The note said Cronos was "sorry to be obliged to leave the good city of New York for my safety's sake," he added. "You are really not clever at all. Your detectives are looking for me and no one can catch me."

The note addressed to the "Chief of Police, New York," and also that Cronos was in the Grand Central station at 11:15 o'clock last night and concluded with the sentence, "Thanks for your kindness."

Although the Grand Central station had been under surveillance for several days, the police there declared they had not seen Cronos or any one resembling him. They said, however, there was no doubt in their minds that Cronos was the author of the note.

Cronos has written several letters to local newspapers since escaping from Chicago, but this was the first direct communication the police have received. Extra precautions were taken here today to guard Roman Catholic churches.

# GERMAN AIR MEN RAID ENGLISH COAST KILLING THREE PERSONS

Considerable Material Damage Results From Bombs Dropped by Four Seaplanes, Says Report.

## BRITISH AEROPLANES PURSUE WITHOUT RESULT

Windows of Church Blown in; Several Roofs Are Destroyed; Many Outbuildings Injured.

London, Feb. 20 (11:25 p. m.)—Four German seaplanes today made a raid over the east and southeast coasts of England, according to an official announcement made this evening. The local casualties are given as two men and one boy killed and one marine wounded. Considerable material damage was done.

The official communication says: "Four German seaplanes made a raid over the east and southeast coasts of England today. The local casualties are given as two men and one boy killed and one marine wounded. Considerable material damage was done."

"The first raiders, two biplanes, appeared over Lowestoft at 10:45 a. m. and circled over the south side of the town for five minutes and dropped bombs. In about five minutes they rose to a great height and seemingly vanished. At 11:10 a. m. the two seaplanes were again over the town and then vanished seaward again."

"Altogether seventeen small high explosive bombs were dropped. There were no casualties. Considerable damage was caused to outbuildings of a restaurant and to two dwelling houses. Two naval seaplanes were up at 11:05 a. m. and pursued the raiders but without result."

"Meanwhile two other German seaplanes were making for the Kentish coast. The first passed over the Kentish Knock light vessel, dropping bombs in that vicinity at 11:20 a. m. The last raider made straight for Walmer. Reaching that town at 11:27 a. m., flying at less than 2,500 feet it dropped six bombs and turned sharply to the east."

"Two of the bombs that fell destroyed roofs and broke windows in the neighborhood. One of them fell close to a church, blowing in the windows. The destruction was done by the second bomb. A third bomb fell on a roadway running along the beach killing one civilian and injuring one marine."

"The total casualties were two men and one boy killed and one marine wounded. Two of our seaplanes which went up from Dover pursued the raiders but apparently could not overtake him."

## AIR RAIDERS ESCAPE ENGLISH AEROPLANE

Walmer, Eng., Feb. 20 (11:25 p. m.)—The residents of Walmer were startled this morning by a series of loud explosions. The day was clear and many persons rushed to points of vantage in time to see a small aeroplane at an altitude of perhaps a thousand feet.

Four bombs were dropped and landed within a circle of one hundred yards, killing a man and a boy. Two British airmen were observed in the air almost immediately after the dropping of the bombs, but the raiders escaped.

The raid was over the town no more than a minute. There was a momentary stoppage of the service in a church near which the bombs fell. Many members of the congregation left the building but the service was resumed and carried through.

One of the victims was a young boy on his rounds with the Sunday newspaper. He was killed instantly. Another victim was a youth of 16 who has not yet been identified.

Some of the bombs fell in the roadway, making large holes. The whole affair was over so quickly that most of the people hardly realized what had happened. Some of those in the church say that the building was rocked with the concussion.

## ENGLISH TOWN NOT MUCH DAMAGED BY BOMBS

Lowestoft, Feb. 20 (11:25 p. m.)—The damage done here by the air raiders was not serious. One bomb demolished the corrugated roof of a sawmill; another unroofed a private house; a third smashed the windows of a hotel, while a fourth without injuring any of the worshippers.

Another bomb fell squarely in a bedroom of a workman's house, but injured nobody. Several bombs fell harmlessly into gardens and vacant lots.

In view of the damage to Lowestoft from the nearest hostile aviation base it is recalled here that a German newspaper recently described a new arrangement whereby a submarine was combined with an aeroplane, the submarine acting as a submersible hangar from which a small aeroplane could operate after being conveyed within suitable distance of its objective.

# SENATE BECOMES THE POLITICAL STORM CENTER OF TWO PARTIES

Democrats, Led by Senator Stone, Will Meet Charges of Republicans Regarding Submarine Policy.

## NATION IS FACING GRAVEST OF CRISES

Mexican Situation Also to Be Topic of Discussion; Fall Not Satisfied With Lansing's Report.

Washington, Feb. 20.—(Discussion from an administration viewpoint of the submarine issue with Germany will be undertaken in the senate this week. Democrats, led by Senator Stone, chairman of the foreign relations committee, have determined to meet what they term an effort on the part of the republican senators to make a partisan issue of the situation that has arisen since the German administration's determination to sink all enemy merchant ships whether armed for offensive or defensive purposes.

Senators Sterling and Lodge, republicans, discussed the subject last week urging that for the United States to yield the right of Germany to sink defensively armed merchant ships would be an unequal act and a step toward war. In announcing his purpose to address the senate, Senator Stone said he would answer some of the arguments made by the republicans, but declared the situation was one of such grave importance that it should not be debated in the senate in a partisan way. Preparing for his address, the Missouri senator has conferred with President Wilson and Secretary Lansing and his views on the subject are being awaited with interest by members of both houses, who do not conceal the belief that the nation is facing the gravest diplomatic crisis since the beginning of the European war.

Mexican Situation.  
Mexican affairs also are to be aired again in the senate, republican senators planning to attack the president's report on Senator Fall's resolution asking for information concerning the Carranza government. Senator Fall has expressed disappointment because the president and Secretary Lansing did not disclose diplomatic correspondence relating to political conditions in Mexico which led up to the recognition of Carranza. In the foreign relations committee Wednesday, the nomination of Henry Prother Fletcher, an ambassador to Mexico, will be considered and administration senators propose to demand a vote on a motion to recommend his confirmation to the senate. Action on the nomination has been held up pending the president's Mexican report. Now that the report has been received, whether satisfactory to the republicans or not, democratic leaders are determined to press for confirmation. There has been no opposition even from republican sources to Mr. Fletcher's nomination and the general opinion of the senate is that his nomination will be confirmed before the end of the week.

Other Important Questions.  
Other important matters to occupy attention of the senate during the week will be the Haitian treaty, a resolution to direct congressional investigation into charges of inefficiency of the army aviation service, confirmation of the inquiry into the fitness of Louis B. Brandeis for the supreme court, water power legislation and further inquiry into the alleged effort of American interests to monopolize the steel output of Yugoslavia. In both houses the preparedness program will be urged on to committees which are framing the army and navy bills.

The Kitchen resolution to repeal the free sugar clause of the Underwood-Simmons tariff law may be reached late this week in the house. Ten democrats already have notified Majority Leader Kitchin that they will not be bound by the caucus decision to support the measure when a vote is taken. Other democrats may join the "insurgent" ranks, it is said. As yet no attempt has been made by the opposition to bring out a reorganization and it is probable they will do so more than speak and vote against it individually. Majority leaders aver that adoption of the resolution in the house is assured.

Fight on Literacy Test.  
If consideration of the free sugar resolution does not follow disposal of the postoffice appropriation bill, which will be passed early this week, the Burnett immigration bill will be taken up instead. Representative Sulz and others opposed to the literacy test will waste a determined fight on the floor against the measure. The Asiatic exclusion bill is now being read by paragraphs in the immigration committee and its introduction, Representative Baker, of California, hopes to have it reported.

# CZAR'S TROOPS DRIVING TURKS BEFORE THEM IN ERZERUM REGION

Advantage Gained in Recent Fighting Is Being Followed Up and Important Developments Are Expected Soon.

## LAND AND SEA FORCES ARE IN CO-OPERATION

Ottoman Army Retiring Along Black Sea Front Almost Sure to Be Caught in Trap by the Russians.

Petrograd, Feb. 20, (12:25 p. m., via London, 9:24 p. m.)—The Russians are pressing the advantage gained at Erzerum. On the right along the Black sea coast, by the co-operation of the sea and land forces they are driving the Turks from one position after another to the east of Trebizond and active operations against that important seaport are expected soon.

In the last two days the Russians have occupied Wides (Widye) and pressed forward ten or twelve miles westward. The fleet has destroyed several shore batteries and by keeping well in advance of the land forces and by destroying bridges over several streams in the path of retreating Turks has rendered their retreat more difficult. The fleet has been working so close to the shore that the warships have been reached by rifle fire from the Turkish troops.

On the left flank after the occupation of Koph, the Russians pushed on to Mush and Ahlat, the latter on the north shore of Lake Van. From Koph to Mush, sixty miles over mountain roads, they fought several battles and occupied Mush by storm.

The Turks fled southward toward Diarbekir, the next objective of the Russians.

Turks May Be Surrounded.  
The rapid Russian offensive beyond Erzerum, it is believed here, makes it probable that the retreat of the Turkish corps operating along the Black sea coast and of those troops which were active in the Mush district before the Russian occupation will be entirely cut off and that the main Turkish armies will be surrounded.

This fate has already overtaken the Thirty-fourth division of the Tenth corps, which was ordered from Olti to Erzerum before the fall of the fortress. A telephonic communication between this group of Turkish forces and the garrison at Erzerum has been entirely destroyed by the Russians. The Thirty-fourth division marched secretly on to Erzerum without suspicion that the fortress was about to surrender. These troops reached Erzerum from the northwest at the very moment that the Develberna line of forts fell into Russian hands and the army which they had come to assist was in full retreat. The road over which they had passed was instantly occupied by Russian cavalry and as they were completely surrounded, there was no alternative but to surrender with arms, equipment and artillery.

It is regarded as almost inevitable that the Turkish corps retreating along the Black sea coast under the destructive fire of the Russian fleet and the pressure of the Russian armies will be caught in the same sort of trap as the Turkish troops falling back from Wides to Gushik Khaneh will have a greater distance to go than the Russian troops which are advancing from Erzerum to cut them off.

On the Turkish right flank where the Ninth corps is operating, the Turkish front line is in the same precarious position since all the roads of retreat to the north are gradually falling under Russian control. The retreat of the Turkish armies everywhere is impeded by deep snow and the difficult character of the country. They are without food and lack war supplies and there seems to be little possibility of their offering even temporary resistance of any strength to the Russian advance.

BRITISH POSITION STORMED BY GERMANS  
Berlin, Feb. 20 (By Wireless to Saxville)—A British position 350 yards long on the Yser canal north of Ypres has been stormed by German troops, army headquarters announced today. British attempts to retake the trenches failed.

The text of the statement is as follows: "Western theater of war: On the Yser canal north of Ypres an English position 350 meters long was stormed by the Germans. All the English attempts to retake the trenches by hand grenade attacks failed. The Germans took twenty prisoners."

"South of Loos in lively engagement the enemy advanced to the edge of one of the German mine craters."

"North of Albeuthem, to the north of Albert, the Germans obtained a minor success in a night engagement, taking several English prisoners."

"In an air fight east of Peronne an English biplane was shot down. Its occupants were dead."

"German airmen threw bombs on the coast of Chile."

## THE WEATHER

WEATHER FORECAST.  
Denver, Feb. 20.—New Mexico: Monday and Tuesday generally fair; not much change in temperature.

LOCAL WEATHER REPORT.  
Feb. twenty-four hours, ending at 6 p. m. yesterday:  
Maximum temperature, 65 degrees; minimum, 29 degrees; range, 45 degrees; temperature at 6 p. m., 52 degrees; southwest wind; clear.